

**NEW RECORDS FOR SIX LYCAENID BUTTERFLIES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA (LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE)**A.A.E. WILLIAMS<sup>1</sup>, R.W. HAY<sup>2</sup> and H.H. BOLLAM<sup>3</sup><sup>1</sup> Dept of Conservation and Land Management, W.A. Wildlife Centre, P.O. Box 51, Wanneroo, W.A., 6065<sup>2</sup> 8 Klem Ave, Manning, W.A., 6152<sup>3</sup> 135 The Esplanade, Mt Pleasant, W.A., 6153**Abstract**

New localities for *Acrodipsas brisbanensis brisbanensis* (Miskin), *Hypochrysops ignitus olliffi* Miskin, *Hypochrysops ignitus erythrinus* (Waterhouse and Lyell), *Ogyris zosine typhon* Waterhouse and Lyell, *Candalides cyprotus cyprotus* (Olliff) and *Candalides erinus erinus* (Fabricius) are recorded from Western Australia.

**New records and discussion***Acrodipsas brisbanensis brisbanensis*

*A. b. brisbanensis* is known from New South Wales and Queensland where it is usually rare (Common and Waterhouse 1981), and from Victoria (D.P.A. Sands, pers. comm.).

Two specimens, both males, were collected by B. Dell near Yanchep, 50 km N of Perth on 17 April 1977. A further three males and a female were taken on 22 October 1982. The female and two males were sent to D.P.A. Sands in Queensland but were unfortunately lost in transit. A further 25 specimens were taken by R.W. Hay and H.H. Bollam in November 1984 and November 1989. Only two were females, both taken in 1984.

All specimens have been taken on a small limestone hill at the Yanchep site, where the habitat is predominantly a *Melaleuca* and *Acacia* shrubland 1 - 3 m high within banksia woodland. D.P.A. Sands compared Yanchep specimens with specimens from eastern Australia and confirms that they conform with *A. b. brisbanensis*. Yanchep females most closely resemble Queensland populations from between Brisbane and the Atherton Tableland. Specimens from these localities have more extensive blue areas, especially on the hind wing, than New South Wales and Victorian populations (D.P.A. Sands, pers. comm.)

*Hypochrysops ignitus olliffi*

*H. i. olliffi* is known from the Esperance, Albany and Denmark areas in south-western Australia (Common and Waterhouse 1981), and from Dolphin Cove in Cape Arid National Park (Field 1990b).

About 30 specimens, both males and females, were taken at Windy Harbour 23 km S of Northcliffe in November 1989, extending the known distribution of this species 125 km further west. A male was collected from Stirling Range National Park on 28 November 1990. However, more specimens are required to confirm the presence of a breeding viable population in the National Park. Lycaenid larvae have been taken from ant byres at the base of

*Choretrum glomeratum* R.Br. shrubs and these conformed closely with descriptions of the larvae of other subspecies of *H. ignitus*. Attempts to rear these larvae to adults have been unsuccessful.

*Hypochrysops ignitus erythrinus*

*H. i. erythrinus* was previously known from a few specimens captured at Darwin in the Northern Territory (Common and Waterhouse 1981), from a male collected 163 km SE of Broome, and from the Mitchell Plateau in north-western Australia (Sands 1986).

A single female was collected along Crabcreek Road, Broome on 25 July 1988. This record may represent a considerable range extension but further specimens are required to accurately establish the distribution of this species.

*Ogyris zosine typhon*

*O. z. typhon* has previously been recorded from Darwin, the Alice Springs area (Common and Waterhouse 1981) and from a point 93 km N of Elliot in the Northern Territory (Field 1990a). It is also known from northern and central Queensland as far south as Rockhampton and Yeppoon (Common and Waterhouse 1981). In Western Australia the species has been recorded from Lake Argyle, Fitzroy Crossing and 110 km S of Broome (Field 1990b), while specimens taken near Paraburdoo have been assigned to this species (Common and Waterhouse 1981).

We have taken a male at Roy Hill, 85 km N of Newman on 30 August 1971, a female at Broome on 20 July 1988, and a further female in worn condition at Milyering, Cape Range National Park, North West Cape, on 7 December 1989. The Milyering specimen was active around a flowering creeper, *Ipomoea yardiensis* A.S. George. Surrounding vegetation was dominated by *Acacia bivenosa* A.P. de Candolle shrubs to 3 m, many of which were parasitised by the mistletoe *Amyema preissii* (Miq.) Tieghem. This may be the larval food plant.

These records are well outside the known range of *O. z. typhon*. However, further specimens are required to accurately establish the distribution of the species.

*Candalides cyprotus cyprotus*

*C. c. cyprotus* is known from localities in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In south-western Australia the species has been recorded from as far north as Geraldton (Common and Waterhouse 1981) and from Meanarra Hill in Kalbarri National Park where it is common (Field 1990b).

We collected about 15 specimens in July and August 1985 on red sand dunes 120 km S of Exmouth where it was relatively common. A freshly emerged male was also taken 21 km SSW of Exmouth at Thomas Carter Lookout, Cape Range National Park, North West Cape on 28 August 1989, where it

was hill-topping along a rocky ridge. These records extend the known Western Australian distribution some 640 km further north.

### *Candalides erinus erinus*

*C. e. erinus* is recorded from north-western Australia north from Onslow, across the Northern Territory including Groote Eylandt and the islands of Torres Strait, and from Cape York south to Port Macquarie and Wallis Lake (Common and Waterhouse 1981).

We collected a number of specimens in August 1985 at the base of Vlaming Head Lighthouse, 10 km N of Exmouth where it was common. A further male was collected at Thomas Carter Lookout, Cape Range National Park, North West Cape on 3 September 1989. Several others were caught and released. All were flying around shrubs on top of a rocky ridge together with *Candalides hyacinthinus simplex* (Tepper) and *Nacaduba biocellata biocellata* (C. and R. Felder). In April 1990 another specimen was seen but not taken at Burnside Island on the eastern side of Exmouth Gulf.

The North West Cape locality extends the known distribution 100 km further west.

Specimens referred to in this paper are housed in the Insect Collection, Department of Conservation and Land Management, and in our private collections. Two male *A. b. brisbanensis* from Yanchep are lodged in the Australian National Insect Collection and a further three males are lodged in the D.P.A. Sands collection.

### Acknowledgements

Greg Keighery of the Department of Conservation and Land Management identified *Ipomoea yardiensis* and *Amyema preissii* specimens from Milyering. The *Acacia bivenosa* specimen was identified by Bruce Maslin of the Western Australian Herbarium. B. Dell of Murdoch University provided data for *A. b. brisbanensis* specimens collected by him. D.P.A. Sands, CSIRO Queensland, kindly confirmed the identity of the *A. b. brisbanensis* specimens from Yanchep and the *O. z. typhon* specimen from North West Cape.

### References

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